

Editorial

In Support of the Nicaraguan People's Defense of the Sovereign Dialogue for Peace

Socorro Gomes
President of the WPC

Strengthening our solidarity with the people and the legitimately elected government of Nicaragua in the defense of national sovereignty and democracy, the peace forces in Latin America and the world are following with concern the crisis' unfolding in the Central American country. It should be evident that foreign interference in Nicaragua has aggravated the situation and must be repudiated!

The World Peace Council and other popular forces have denounced the wave of coups or putschist attempts throughout Latin America and the Caribbean in collusion between national and regional oligarchies and their employers, the United States. The Nicaraguan case, in which the people and the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) have a historic legacy of brave resistance against US aggressions, is one of them.

That is why we express our support for the Nicaraguan people and the Sandinista Front government, led by a legitimately elected president, Daniel Ortega, in resisting coup attempts and calling for dialogue to overcome, sovereignly, the crisis established in the country.

Exploiting the just demands of peoples for rights and the deepening of democracy, or in times of economic crisis born in the context of global crisis or artificially fomented, is a well-known tactic to cause destabilization. A media war has stimulated the environment of virulence and antagonism in the country, against the Sandinista government.

Violent paramilitary groups or obscure historical movements are created and, when unveiled, have proven links with American agencies, deputies and institutes known to stimulate destabilizing forces to cause "regime changes", as components of coups d'état or of crises that provoke conservative and neo-liberal turns in various countries.

In addition, the Sandinista Front has been the target of acts of terror articulated by sectors of the local oligarchy, sponsored by the United States. In spreading hatred, reactionary forces and their paramilitary groups act brutally and have killed more than 100 people, most of them identified with the Front. Such horrendous acts must be repudiated in the strongest terms!

As we have recently denounced, the aim of such ignominy is to provoke the overthrow of the Ortega government to enable its replacement by a government that acts like

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First International Conference Against US/NATO Military Bases

Dublin, Ireland — November 16-18, 2018

Bahman Azad
Organizational Secretary
U.S. Peace Council

On January 16, 2018, the Conference Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, held in Baltimore, Maryland, USA, adopted a resolution calling for initiating a Global Campaign against all US and NATO bases around the world. The resolution also called for convening an International Conference against U.S. and NATO bases within one year.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases (organizer of the Baltimore Conference), together with the Peace and Neutrality Alliance (PANA) in Ireland and the World Peace Council, drafted a Unity Statement which was then submitted to a large number of prominent peace, justice and environmental organizations from around the world, requesting their feedback and endorsement.

This Unity Statement was quickly signed by a wide range of organizations from more than 30 countries in every continent, and became the working document of the newly formed Global Campaign Against US/NATO Military Bases. The Statement has so far been endorsed by over 600 organizations and activists from a significant part of the world.

The key element of the Unity Statement, which brought such a diverse range of organizations together for the very first time, was the common understanding that: "While we may have our differences on other issues, we all agree that US/NATO military bases are the principal instruments of imperial global domination and primary causes of devastating environmental and health impacts through wars of aggression and occupation, and that the closure of the US/NATO military bases is one of the first necessary steps toward a just, peaceful and sustainable world."

It is on the basis of this common understanding that the First International Conference Against US/NATO Military Bases is being convened.

This Conference has invited speakers from a wide range of organizations from all continents of the globe. Dr. Aleida Guevara (daughter of Che) will be the keynote speaker of the conference. We also have members of Irish Parliament, Nobel Peace Laureates and leaders of peace organizations from various parts of the world, including from Cuba, Brazil, Argentina, UK, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Palestine, Israel, the Philippines, Okinawa, Australia, and many other countries, speaking at the conference.

This Conference is an unprecedented historic event on the global scale that would not have been possible without the dedicated help and support of leading peace and justice organizations, as well as numerous peace-loving people who have made financial contribution to cover the huge expenses of this conference.

However, our task is not done yet. We still need your continued active support in promoting the conference, urging people to register to attend, making donations,

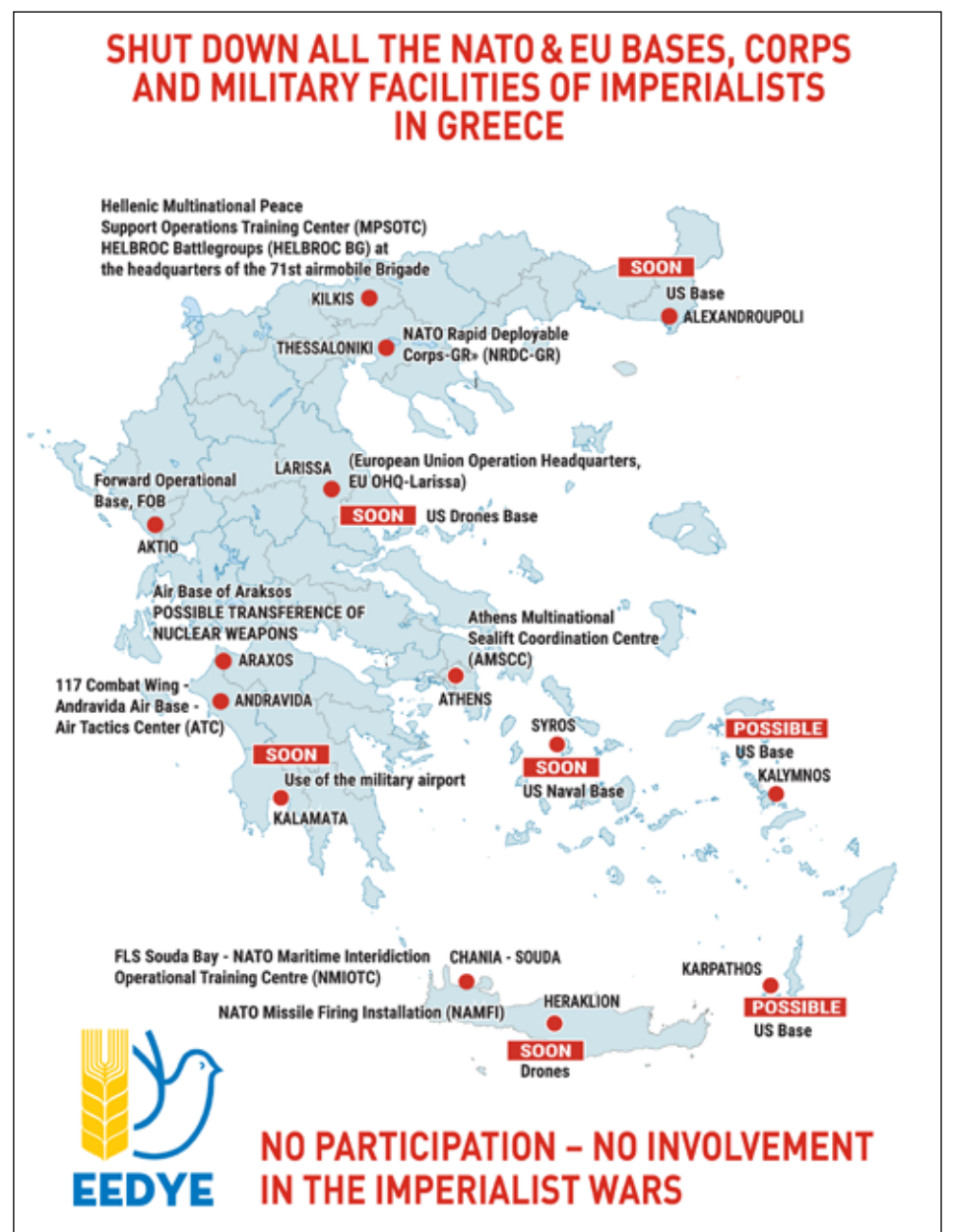
endorsing the conference, placing a solidarity message in the Conference Program Book, and last but not least, signing the Global Campaign's Unity Statement and joining our global effort to close all US/NATO military bases as the first step toward demilitarization of our planet.

We urge all peace-loving people of the world, especially all member organizations of the World Peace Council, to

help us in every way they can to make this historic Conference a great success.

Please visit the Global Campaign's web site at: NoUSNATOBases.org for information about the Conference program, list of speakers, hotel information in Dublin, and the ways you can help to promote and fund the Conference.

Let us work together to put an end to this US/NATO military madness! ■



International Solidarity Mission to Syria October 29-31, 2018

The World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) and the World Peace Council (WPC) are organizing the INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY MISSION to Syria, with the aim of expressing our solidarity with the people and youth of Syria, a country and people which has suffered for more than 7 years from a coordinated imperialist aggression and interference, with hundreds of thousands of victims and millions of displaced and refugees. The two International Organisations have expressed their principled positions all these years in solidarity with the brave people and youth of Syria. After a similar common initiative in April 2012, a second Mission is being organized from October 29-31, 2018. Delegations from peace and youth organisations from more than 50 countries have already confirmed their participation.

The National Union of Syrian Students and the National Council of Peace Partisans Movement in Syria, will be the hosts of the Mission, during which an International Conference in Solidarity with the people and youth of Syria will be held on October 30th.

FINAL DECLARATION

WPC Continental Meeting for the Americas and the Caribbean

Moca, Dominican Republic — September 12-13, 2018

The Continental Meeting of Peace Organizations attached to the World Peace Council (WPC) in the region of the Americas and the Caribbean was held in Moca, Dominican Republic, on September 12 and 13 of 2018, under the presidency of Socorro Gomez, WPC President, and Regional Coordinator Silvio Platero with the participation of representatives of peace organizations from 10 countries of the continent.

This important biennial meeting was attended by peace leaders and fighters from the Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace (UDPP, the Spanish acronym), host organization of the meeting; the Canadian Peace Congress (CPC); the Movement for Peace, Solidarity and Sovereignty of Argentina (MOPASSOL); the Peace Council of Brazil (Cebrapaz); the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of the Peoples (Movpaz); the Peace Council of the United States (USPC); the Mexican Movement for Peace and Development (MOMPADE) and the Peace Council of Guyana. It was also recognized the presence of delegates from Chile and Puerto Rico.

The meeting approved the Report presented by the Regional Coordinator summarizing the work in promotion of peace in the continent since the last meeting, held in Toronto, Canada, in July 2016. It was appreciated that multiple and diverse actions and initiatives of denounce and social mobilization were carried out by the organizations in these two years of hard fight against the strategies of imperialism and its NATO allies that stubbornly try to impose their geopolitical and economic order in the world and particularly in this continent.

Each one of the peace organizations attending the meeting presented its Report on the work displayed during this period and informed in detail its actions in favor of peace in its own country and the continent as a whole.

The relevance of the WPC Meeting held in Sao Luis, state of Maranhao, Brazil, in November 2016 for the coordination of the struggle for peace at world and continental levels was also highlighted. Said meeting had an ample representation of organizations from several world regions that reiterated their condemnation of imperialism and its NATO allies and the imperialist aggressions in several parts of the planet.

That continental meeting approved with satisfaction the celebration of the Fourth Trilateral Conference of the peace organizations of North America

attached to the WPC, which drew a fruitful balance of the actions undertaken since the past meeting, held in Toronto, Canada, in July, 2016.

In this context, the Canadian Con-



gress for Peace, the Peace Council of the United States, and the Mexican Movement for Peace and Development again elaborated and approved the guidelines of their actions and mobilizing initiatives against the war and imperialism in a region of high geostrategic importance for the destinies of humankind.

The participants in the continental meeting confirmed the complex international situation faced by the world because of the permanence and development of elements opposed to peace and global political stability. In the first place is the growing imperialist aggressiveness, today strengthened by an ultra-conservative Administration in Washington that persists in imposing its world dominion by means of strengthened intervention policies and meddling in other nations' affairs. This new economic and commercial protectionism threatens with the outburst of a commercial war with China, and with aggravated chauvinism aims at increasing the hegemonic thought among U.S. citizens.

It was agreed that the existent model for economic development has either failed or proven ineffective and what it is needed is a scientific, realistic people centered development strategy based on sustainable economic development, equity, social and economic justice.

They likewise expressed their rejection to the growing and unceasing increase of the military budget of the United States and NATO, which are in search of military superiority, threaten to extend to the cyberspace, and insist on the proliferation and modernization of the nuclear arsenal.

In this context, the reorganization and opening of new foreign military bases and installations in several world regions is an essential element of the imperialist global strategy of dominion and violation

of the sovereignty of the countries where they are located.

From that perspective, the permanent threat and imposition of sanctions against Russia and Iran is part of those aggressive policies that continue driving the world to the edge of a new world war.

The meeting showed sympathy and total endorsement to the creation of a Global Campaign against Foreign Military Bases and the WPC declaration of the World Day against Foreign Military Bases every February 23.

The first International Conference against US/NATO Military Bases sponsored by the WPC to be held in Dublin, next November will be a very significant moment for the global peace movement to wage a global struggle against the core foundation of the US/NATO imperialist domination and an important opportunity to mobilize the Global Campaign against these bases.

The participants likewise reiterated the demand to shut down NATO.

They also reiterated their strongest rejection to the imperialist policies in the Middle East aimed at the creation of a new geopolitical area in that territory in accordance with their interests to favor Israel and not propitiate the creation of a Palestine state with East Jerusalem as its capital, as well as to achieve the dis-articulation of Syria and the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The leaders and peace fighters present at the meeting also stated their great concern regarding the extension and strengthening of the imperialist and oli-

garchic siege in Latin America and the Caribbean against the progressive political processes that for more than one decade have brought immeasurable social progress to their peoples and produced the notorious advancement of a favorable process of regional integration in solidarity without the participation of the United States.

The use of open or disguised methods of political, economic and media war, as well as the coarse political manipulation of justice are ever more present in the imperial intentions to disarticulate and revert those processes, including military threat and even the attempt of assassination of national leaders. The strengthening of the South Command capacity with its network of military bases, as well as the reactivation of the Fourth Fleet is part and parcel of this strategy.

The utmost solidarity was conveyed in this regard with the peoples of Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua and Venezuela that are currently facing the aggressive policies of imperialism and the national oligarchies temporarily heading the governments of several of those countries.

Particularly strong was the delegates' demand for the release from prison of the leader of the Workers' Party of Brazil, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, and their endorsement of support for his right to freely participate in the national elections next October.

They likewise demanded the cessation of aggressions against the Bolivarian nation and expressed their strongest rejection of the attempt to assassinate of the democratically elected President Nicolás Maduro Moros.

They also expressed their firm solidarity with the people and government of Nicaragua, and defended their right to peace and free determination without any foreign meddling.

The coming to power of a new conservative government in Colombia creates expectations as to the future of the peace agreements signed by the previous government and the FARC-EP at the time, in accordance with the declarations of the new ruler during the election campaign that took him to the presidency of the Republic. In this regard, the meeting issued a call to the new Colombian authorities to respect the achieved agreements, included Ethnic Agreement, and to stop brutal assassinations of community's social leaders and former guerrilla members, as well as, strongly demanded the freedom of Jesus Santrich and to continue ahead with the negotiating process with the ELN in order to conclude with the establishment a defini-

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- South African Peace Initiative (SAPI)
- Syrian National Peace Council (SNPC)
- US Peace Council (USPC)

Fourth Canada–United States–Mexico Trilateral Peace Conference

Moca, Dominican Republic — September 13, 2018

FINAL DECLARATION

The Canadian Peace Congress (CPCong), the U.S. Peace Council (USPC) and the Mexican Movement for Peace and Development (MOMPADE) held their fourth Trilateral Meeting on September 13, 2018 in Moca, Dominican Republic in conjunction with the Hemispheric Peace Conference of the World Peace Council and its affiliates on this continent. Upon the conclusion of their meeting, the delegations of the three organizations issued the following statement:

Our Trilateral Meeting takes place at a time of a serious deterioration of the international situation, marked by the increasingly aggressive actions of U.S. imperialism, with the active support of Canada and its other NATO allies, to interfere in the domestic affairs of other states, to use economic blackmail and threats of aggression, to conspire with regional actors and local oligarchies to carry out ‘regime change’ operations against governments unwilling to submit to imperialist demands, and in some cases to resort to direct military intervention. This aggressive behavior comes together with, and is closely related to, the deepening systemic crisis of capitalism and the ever-worsening effects of climate change and the general degradation of the global environment.

The participants express grave concern that the accelerated drive to militarization, aggression and war threatens the very future of humanity, and call for urgent measures to stop and reverse the arms race, to sharply reduce bloated military budgets and to redirect these funds to peaceful and socially useful purposes to raise wages and living standards, improve social programs and protect our environment. Urgent efforts are required to prevent the modernization of nuclear arsenals, to ban the militarization of outer space, and to move in the direction of general and comprehensive disarmament, including the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Our organizations condemn the further expansion of NATO, including the recent addition of Colombia as a “global partner” and its intention to recruit other states in our hemisphere to the NATO camp, which is totally controlled by U.S. imperialism and serves its economic and political interests. The cause of peace can only be advanced through the dissolution of this aggressive military alliance, not through its expansion.

The Trilateral Meeting agrees that the firm foundations of peace must be based on the principles of non-intervention and full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, self-determination and independence of all states, as stipulated in the UN Charter and covenants of international law enacted since the end of the World War II.

The participants note that the web of U.S. foreign military bases around the world – including an archipelago of almost 80 foreign bases throughout the Americas – is a direct threat to world peace and undermines the sovereignty of individual states, and we call for the closure of these bases. Our three organizations commit to helping build the Global Campaign Against US/NATO Military Bases, and pledge to help mobilize the largest possible contingents of peace forces from our countries to participate in the International

Conference Against US/NATO Military Bases to be held in Dublin, Ireland on November 16-18, 2018.

Our organizations pledge to strengthen our solidarity with the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela and the Sandinista government in Nicaragua, both of which are under sharp attack by U.S. imperialism, and with Socialist Cuba which continues to endure and advance despite a revitalized blockade by the United States. These are not isolated issues or events, but rather part of a coordinated



campaign to undermine progressive governments and movements throughout Latin America, particularly those striving to resist imperialist hegemony, and to defend their national sovereignty and independent path of development. This subversive campaign increasingly relies on judicial and parliamentary maneuvers to remove elected leaders and oust progressive governments from power.

In this regard, our Meeting welcomes the progressive changes in Mexico arising from the recent election results, but warns that the new government could well become the next target of such anti-democratic attacks by imperialism and domestic reactionary forces.

The participants note that the re-

negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between our three countries has reached a critical stage as the Trump Administration, acting in the interests of U.S. finance capital, seeks to extract concessions from both its northern and southern neighbors. Our organizations consider that the economic relations between our neighboring countries – and related treaties and agreements – must be mutually beneficial for the peoples and economies of our three countries, must serve to improve the wages, working con-

ditions and overall living standards of our peoples, and must protect and enhance our shared natural environment.

Our organizations also express alarm at the rapid growth of racist, anti-immigration tendencies and state policies in our countries, especially marked by the plans of the Trump Administration to step up the deportation of undocumented workers and the completion of a wall along the entire US/Mexican frontier. In our view such positions and policies pander to and help to promote the further rise of xenophobia, national chauvinism, racism and fascism in our societies, backward and dangerous trends which are antithetical and hostile to the cause of peace. We should be

building bridges to unite us, not walls to divide us.

While working on all of these related issues over the coming period, our Meeting proposes that our organizations consider three specific campaign initiatives flowing out of this trilateral session:

1. Against Arms Production, the Arms Trade and the Militarization of our Societies – this to include opposition to the military-industrial complexes in our three countries, the export of weapons and military-related goods internationally (including the illicit cross-border traffic of weapons), and the hypocritical “War on Drugs” and militarization of police forces domestically, all of which serve to breed a poisonous ‘cult of militarism’ in our societies. No to Wars at Home or Abroad!

2. Against the Reactionary Wave of Intolerance, Xenophobia and Anti-Immigrant Ideas and State Policies which criminalizes migrant workers, national minorities and racialized communities, and promotes the spread of racism and fascism in our societies. Instead, we must build unity and solidarity among all those who stand for the protection and enhancement of the economic, social and political rights of the people, including the fundamental and inherent rights of the indigenous peoples of our countries.

3. Against Imperialist Interventionism and ‘Regime Change’ and in solidarity with all those peoples and States which are victimized by, or targeted for such imperialist interference and aggression within our hemisphere and around the world.

Finally, the Trilateral Meeting agrees to establish a permanent “continuation” committee, composed of one representative from each of our three organizations, to develop concrete proposals with regard to the three campaign initiatives (outlined above), and to maintain ongoing lines of communication and dialogue among our organizations on all matters of mutual concern and interest. ■

Communiqué of the Asia Pacific Regional Meeting of World Peace Council

Regional Meeting of the WPC for the Asia-Pacific Katmadu, Nepal



Presidium of the WPC Regional Meeting with the chief guest, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Nepal, Ishwor Pokhrel. From left to right: R.Pandey, former Minister and MP; Rabindra Adhikari, Regional Coordinator of Asia Pacific WPC; Defence Minister Ishwor Pokhrel; Pallab Sengupta, AIPSO General Secretary; and Iraklis Tsavdaridis, WPC Executive Secretary.

The Asia Pacific Regional Meeting of World Peace Council has been successfully accomplished in Kathmandu Nepal during on July 27-28, 2018. Participated by 44 delegates from seven countries (India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Laos, Greece and Nepal), the meeting concluded endorsing future activities till the month of December this year.

The meeting was graced by the Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. Ishwor Pokharel and also addressed by the Executive Secretary of WPC Iraklis Tsavdaridis and prominent leaders from the organisations of the participant’s countries.

The meeting expressed deep concern over the continuing deterioration in international situation in general and particular in Asia Pacific Region. The meeting noted that this region also in area second only to Europe in terms of nuclear weapons deployed, new installations created for the stationing of the equipment for the star wars adventurism; it is also a region with an unprecedented imperial-

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Appeal to the Peace-Loving People of the World!

Peace-loving peoples of the world who aspire after justice and peace,

It is the unanimous desire of humanity to live in harmony and achieve co-prosperity in a free and peaceful world without domination and subordination, aggression and war.

The great leaders of the Korean People HE Kim Il Sung and HE Kim Jong Il devoted their all to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, and to peace and security of the Korean Peninsula and the rest of the world in the whole course of founding and developing DPR Korea. And today their cause is given steady continuity by His Excellency Kim Jong Un.

Thanks to the bold and peace-loving measures and energetic activities of His Excellency Kim Jong Un, the atmosphere of reconciliation, cooperation and security prevails over the Korean Peninsula where the danger of military conflict reached the extreme until quite recently, giving to the international community immense pleasure and fresh hope for peace.

The peace-loving peoples of the world express highest respect to His Excellency Kim Jong Un for his special contribution to the dramatic turn on the Korean Peninsula and extend warmest welcome and support to the inter-Korean summit meeting and Panmunjom Declaration, the Singapore DPRK-US summit meeting and Joint Statement.

Fully conscious of the important mission entrusted to us by the present historic times, the delegates of the Organizing Committee of the International Festival in Praise of the Great Persons of Mt. Paektu, friendship and solidarity organizations and international democratic organiza-

tions who have conducted positive activities to support the Korean people in their just cause appeal to the peace-loving peoples of the world as follows:

First, let us further intensify the international solidarity activities in demand of the establishment of lasting and durable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula!

Peace and stability of the Korean



Peninsula are directly related to peace and security of the world, and the replacement of the Korean Armistice Agreement with the durable peace regime is the demand of the times that brooks no further delay.

We demand that all the countries concerned take immediate measures to declare the end of war and establish

durable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula this year which is the 65th year from the conclusion of the Korean Armistice Agreement.

Let us work actively to strongly urge the international community to make a tangible contribution to the end of all military actions detrimental to the atmosphere of peace prevailing over the Korean Peninsula, and to peace and security on it!

Second, let us launch valiant activities against all forms of sanctions and unreasonable measures that hamper prosperity of the Korean people!

The Korean people have raised DPR Korea to the position of a world-recognized strategic nation defying the most brutal and protracted sanctions and moves to isolate and stifle it in his-

tory, and are opening the bright future of fresh development and prosperity by the concerted efforts of the Korean nation.

Let us make uninterrupted worldwide efforts to expose the unfairness and inhumanity of all kinds of hostile policy towards DPR Korea and sanctions against it and demand that they be lifted immediately!

Let us give full support to all measures taken by the Korean people to demonstrate the resourcefulness, talent and unity of the Korean nation to the world and achieve co-prosperity of the nation!

Third, let us give full support to, and solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle to reunify the country in the principle of national independence!

It is the unanimous desire of the entire Korean nation in the north, in the south and abroad to put an end to the 70-odd-year-long division and reunify the country by implementing the inter-Korean declarations and agreements.

Let us categorically reject the unjust interference and arbitrariness of the foreign forces that hinder the Korea's reunification and frustrate all challenges against the implementation of Panmunjom Declaration by the united efforts of peace-loving peoples of the world!

Affirming that we will continue this march together with the Korean people to all countries of the world across continents and oceans, we once again call upon all peace-loving peoples of the world to give full support and solidarity to the just cause of the Korean people.

Participants in the International March for Peace, Prosperity and Reunification of Korea — Pyongyang, September 11, 2018

“To Build a Community of Shared Future for Mankind” CPAPD Event on the UN International Day of Peace Nanjing, China — September 19-20, 2018

Speech by Iraklis Tsavdaridis
Executive Secretary of the WPC



Dear Comrades and Friends of the CPAPD,

Distinguished Mayor of the City of Nanjing and Peace-Loving Friends from this Martyr City,

Dear Fellow Participants in this Conference,

On behalf of the WPC we convey our most cordial greetings to the CPAPD and through you to the peace-loving people of the PR China.

It is with pleasure to visit one more time China and it is with feelings of great respect to visit Nanjing, 80 years after the massacre

which took place by the Japanese invaders, one of the cruelest acts of barbarity in history with hundreds of thousands of slaughtered civilians of all age. The WPC expresses its sympathy and solidarity with the people and city of Nanjing.

As WPC we are engaged in many dozens of countries, trying to uncover the roots for the wars, the invasions, occupation and foreign interference in internal affairs of sovereign countries, denouncing the forces which act in front and behind the scenes, violating International Law and the principles of the UN founding Charta.

All the above can be observed today in many corners of the world which is becoming increasingly threatened by the imperialist aggressiveness and the interests of the Multinational Corporations who are seeking for new energy resources and raw materials, for new markets and spheres of influence in order to multiply their profits. Where the political manipulation, imposition and sanctions are not sufficient for the “color revolutions”, the imperialists are not hesitating to use the brutal military force for violent regime changes with massive loss of lives of civilians, huge flow of millions of refugees and displaced people.

It is not a secret that in today's world, the USA, its allies from the European Union and NATO are major aggressors, despite differences and antagonisms between them. All this affects also Russia and China their economic

competitors who are faced with sanctions, trade war, but also by installing military Bases and “missile defense shields” around their borders, in order to secure a possible first strike option, including a nuclear one, without the possibility of retaliation.

The lessons we draw from the history and in particular from the Nanjing massacre 80 years ago, are that the peoples have to identify and fight against the aggressors, to resist and to struggle for their freedom, their independence and sovereignty. In our minds and hearts are many cases of peoples under such conditions, but allow us to underline the cases of the peoples of the Middle East, the peoples of Syria, Iraq, Yemen and especially the heroic people of Palestine, victim of the Israeli occupation since 70 years, suffering from a slow genocide and by the complicity of the forces who fully back the Israeli regime, such as the USA and the EU.

We declare our solidarity with the peoples in Latin America, in particular with the Socialist Cuba and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, both victims of the US imperialism. Having been few days ago in Pyongyang in the DPR Korea for the celebrations of its 70th founding anniversary we express our hopes, however being cautious, that a new path of normalization of the DPRK-USA relations has opened. Nevertheless, we demand the withdrawal of the US troops from South Korea, the end of the joint

military exercises between USA-Japan-South Korea and support the complete de-nuclearization of the Korean peninsula. We support the independent peaceful reunification of Korea.

The WPC expresses its solidarity with the people of China and denounces the actions and plans to interfere in the internal affairs of China by the USA and its allies, as seen with the cases of the Tibet, the efforts to manipulate and use minorities such as the Uighurs in Xinjiang province or other religious pretexts such as the Falungong. Likewise, we support the one-China policy regarding Taiwan.

Dear friends and fellow fighters for a world peace and social justice!

The WPC supports all initiatives which can emancipate the peoples and bring their interests to the forefront for the needs and aspirations of the vast majority in each society, for a world free from imperialist domination, hegemony and exploitation, for a world where the peoples will leave in peace and together in prosperity as masters of their wealth and of their destiny.

From Nanjing, the city which faced and suffered the barbarity 80 years ago we send a message to the peace loving people of the world and our solidarity to the just causes of the peoples fighting to become the masters of their fortunes in a world of peace and prosperity, free from imperialist domination and exploitation. ■

WPC — 70 Years in Defense of Peace

August 1948: Cornerstone of the World Peace Movement

Exactly 70 years ago, between August 25 and 28 1948, the Polish city of Wrocław hosted the World Congress of Intellectuals in Defence of Peace, an important expression of the world movement that, two years later, would join around the World Peace Council.

Three years after World War II and the victory over Nazi-fascism in 1945, this congress assembled hundreds of delegates from 45 countries, which included some outstanding intellectuals and artists, like Pablo Picasso, Eugénie Cotton, Irène Curie, Paul Éluard, Jorge Amado, Henri Wallon, Anna Seghers, Aime Cesaire, Andersen Nexø and György Lukács, among others. The largest delegations came from Poland itself, as well as from the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, and the Soviet Union.

In the adopted Manifesto, the fundamental aim of the Congress was clear:

“We raise our voice in favour of peace, the free cultural development of peoples, their national independence and close cooperation.” In a time already marked by new threats to a hard won peace - when the US and its allies were already carrying out what came to be known as the Cold War and, after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, brandished the atomic threat to the world - it was time to act with boldness and determination: the Congress urged intellectuals to “organise national congresses of men of culture in defence of peace in all countries; create national committees for peace in all countries; strengthen international links among intellectuals of all countries to serve peace.”

The Wrocław Congress also called for the holding, in a short time, of a world congress of peace advocates, that did take place in April 1949 - a few weeks after the formal constitution of NATO - in the First World Congress of Partisans for Peace more than 2,000 delegates from 72 countries participated, it was held simultaneously in Paris and Prague due to the refusal of the French authorities to allow the entry of delegates from some countries of Eastern Europe and Asia.

Differently from what happened in August 1948, in the World Congress of Partisans for Peace not only artists and intellectuals, but also workers, students, farmers, religious people, elected officials, cabinet members, participated answering to the Call sent out on February 1949 “to all democratic organizations that have as a main interest the defence of peace and are dedicated to progress - trade unions, women and youth movements, peasant organizations, coops and religious groups, organizations of scientists, writers, journalists, artists and democratic politicians” to demonstrate in favour of peace.

The Manifesto of this Congress, read in Paris by the French poet Louis Aragon, proclaimed the fundamental objectives and principles of the movement that then was then being born:

“We stand for the U. N. Charter, against all military alliances that nullify the Charter and lead to war.

“We are against the crushing burden of military expenditure which is responsible for the poverty of the people.

“We stand for the banning of atomic weapons and other methods of mass extermination of human beings; we demand the limitation of the armed forces of the Great Powers and the establishment of effective international control over the use of atomic energy for exclusively peaceful ends and for the good of humanity.

“We strive for the national inde-

pendence and peaceful cooperation of all peoples, for the right of peoples to determine their own future — essential conditions for freedom and Peace.

“We oppose all attempts to restrict and then to destroy democratic liberties in order to prepare the way for war. We are the world-wide bulwark of truth and reason; we aim at neutralising the pro-

the Congress, which elected the Standing Committee of Peace Partisans, based in Paris and was coordinated by the French physicist, Frédéric Joliot-Curie. It was this Committee that in March 1950 launched the Stockholm Appeal, for a atomic weapon ban, which collected hundreds of millions of signatures worldwide and made a decisive contribution to the

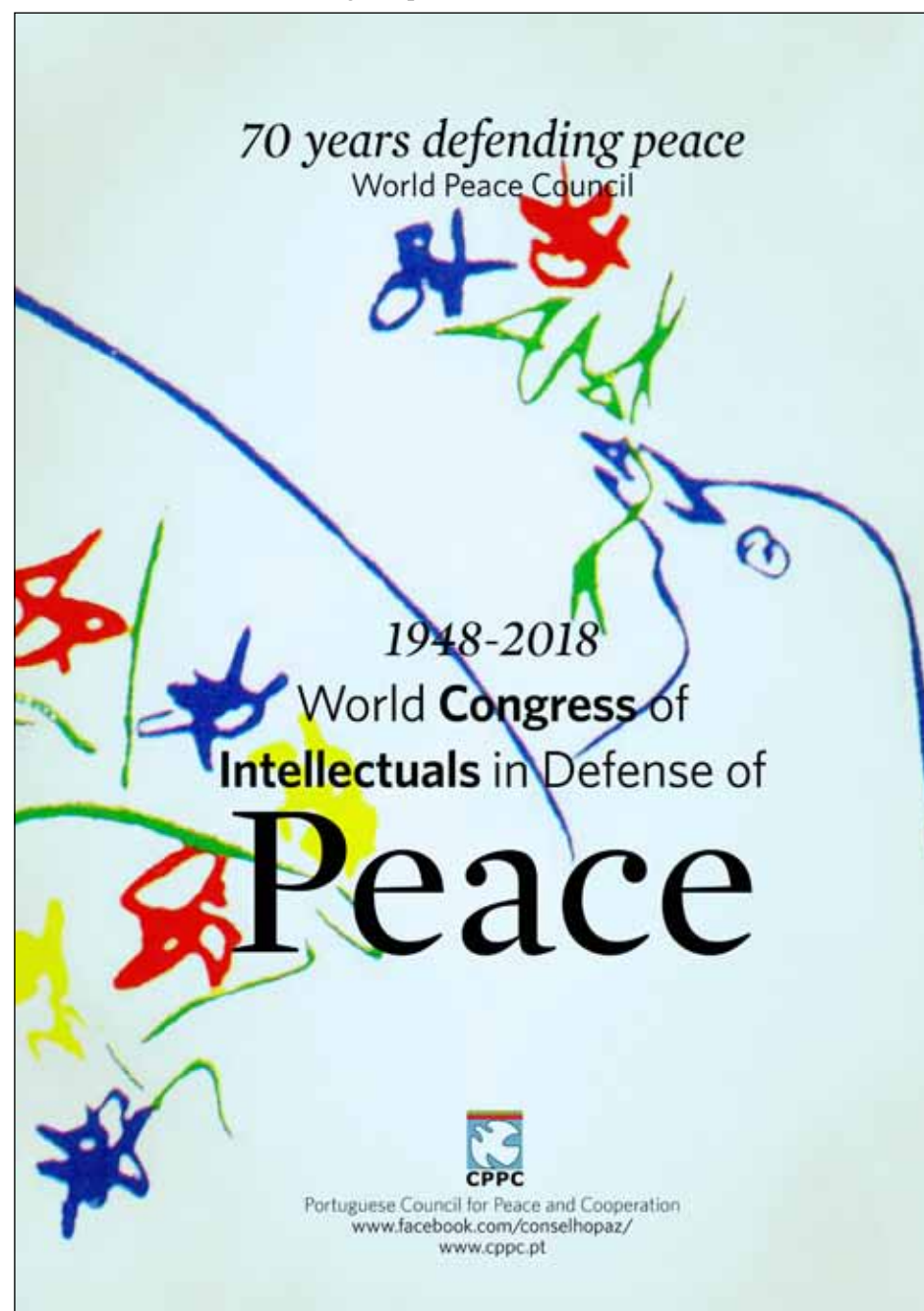
decided on the constitution of the first World Peace Council chaired by Frédéric Joliot-Curie.

The statutes adopted there established the unitary, democratic, anti-fascist and anti-imperialist character of the World Peace Council, confirmed by its composition: among its 221 members were personalities from different nationalities, social origins, political ideologies and religious confessions. The defence of peace and disarmament, the peaceful resolution of international conflicts and national sovereignty, and solidarity with peoples who were victims of war, occupation, blackmail and blockade were from the outset its main causes.

Amongst other important aspects, the Manifesto to the Peoples of the World, issued by the Second World Peace Congress, underlined the necessity and the possibility of preventing a new war, of which there were already threats. “Every thinking person knows that he who dares to say “War is inevitable” slanders mankind. You who read this message, proclaimed in the name of the peoples of 80 nations represented at the Second World Peace Congress in Warsaw, must never forget that the fight for Peace is your own fight. You should know that hundreds of millions of defenders of Peace, united as one man, reach out their hand to you. They invite you to take part in the noblest struggle ever waged by mankind with confidence in the future. We cannot wait for Peace. We must win it,” stated the Manifesto. The Congress itself was the expression that «men and women gathered from the five continents of the world can agree, despite great differences of opinion, in order to dispel the scourge of war and to maintain Peace», as also stated in the Manifesto.

In a time like the one we are living in, marked by mounting tensions and the militarization of international relations; by increasing interference, destabilization and wars of aggression; by the disrespect for the independence of States and the sovereignty and the rights of peoples; marked by the increase in military expenditure and arms race - as a result of a war mongering policy promoted by the USA, EU, NATO and their allies -, we must keep in mind the example of the defenders of Peace that, in equally harsh times, knew, despite differences, how to determine the main threat and danger, uniting forces against a new war and in the defence of Peace and the survival of humankind. Let us raise high and pursue today and in the future their legacy and their struggle.

Portuguese Council for Peace and Cooperation — August 28, 2018



paganda which prepares public opinion for war.

“We condemn war hysteria, the preaching of race hatred and hostility between peoples. We urge the denunciation and boycott of newspapers, literary productions and films, individuals and organisations which make propaganda for a new war.”

Pablo Picasso created the poster of

affirmation and expansion of the world peace movement.

The Second World Peace Congress, held in November 1950 in Warsaw, was set for Sheffield, but the British authorities stepped back in their decision to authorize it - was a decisive step in the process of strengthening, coordinating and combining efforts of the world Peace movement. The two thousand people who participated in it, from 80 countries,

Anti-War Demonstration in Milan

The Committee Against War Milan (Comitato Contro la Guerra Milano) participated in a demonstration, held Saturday May 19 in Milan, in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people, and against the transfer of the US embassy to Jerusalem, which occurred just before the day of the Catastrophe (Nakba, in Arabic); 70 years of oppression and suffering for the people expelled from their land.

With the Committee Against War Milan there were also the flags of countries historically Palestine's friends and were themselves attacked by US imperialism and by Zionism.



Speech by Thanassis Pafilis, General Secretary of the WPC At the Conference Against NATO — Brussels, July 7, 2018

Fellow Militants,

On behalf of the WPC Secretariat, we thank all representatives of peace movements and other people's organizations for their participation in today's Conference and the demonstration against NATO which is the armed hand of imperialism against the peoples.

Today's event is a part and continuation of the anti-imperialist struggle of the WPC; it takes place in conditions of escalation of imperialist aggression and antagonisms, accompanied amongst others by interventions, imperialist wars, new war preparations and threats against peoples around the world.

We condemn in the most categorical manner the interventions and the war against Syria, the threats against Iran following the withdrawal of the US from the nuclear agreement, the transfer of the US Embassy to Jerusalem, Israel's assassinations against the Palestinians, Turkey's invasion of Syria and Iraq, the war of Saudi Arabia against Yemen.

All these developments are extremely dangerous; create explosive conditions for more generalized wars, set the ground for a new, bigger wave of refugees and immigrants.

It is obvious that in the South-East Mediterranean region and more broadly, the competitions for the control of resources, the transport routes of energy and products, and the geostrategic control are increasing. Such antagonisms occur across the globe, from the Arctic to SE Asia, from the Caucasus to the Balkans and Africa. The economic war that manifests itself between the United States of America, the EU, China and other major powers, is intensifying. The whole planet looks like a volcano that is currently showing small explosions but seems to be preparing bigger and bigger ones as history has shown.

This situation also underlines the duty of the people to struggle against interventions and imperialist wars; to develop and strengthen the people's movement in a struggle that will turn against the causes that create this situation.

Final Declaration ... (from p. 2)

tive and lasting peace in that nation.

With regard to Cuba, the participants in the meeting reaffirmed the global demand for the cessation of the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States against the Cuban people for more than 50 years, and once more demanded the return of the illegally occupied territory of Guantánamo to Cuba.

The regional meeting expressed solidarity with the people of Argentina in its legitimate right of sovereignty over the Falkland (Malvinas), South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, and condemned the increased British military presence in that zone.

The representatives of the peace organizations at the meeting congratulated the Mexican people and showed their satisfaction with the victory obtained by the progressive political force MORENA headed by Andrés Manuel López Obrador, elected President of the Aztec nation, which creates genuine hopes of social changes in favor of the large masses of that country.

It was also reiterated the denounce against the permanence of a colonial situation in the Caribbean sub-region and particularly in Puerto Rico, which

The NATO summits, like the one to be carried out, are adapting its policy, structure and action to these conditions, aiming, despite its internal contradictions, at maintaining and expanding its domination throughout the world, by all means including of course the war.

The WPC at its meetings and international Conferences, such as the one taking place today, monitors these dangerous developments, informs the peace movements and other people's movements with the aim of alerting and mobilizing the peoples.

Some characteristic elements in rela-



tion to the escalation of NATO's latest aggressiveness and activity are:

- The further concentration of military forces and armaments at the border with Russia, with a leading role of the NATO member countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

- The concentration of large military forces and warships in SE Europe, the creation of new bases, such as in Larissa of Greece, with drones installation, the modernization and extension of old bases, e.g., Souda in Crete, Araxos for Nuclear Weapons in SE Greece.

- The strengthening of structures of command of the military forces.

- Its new expansion in the Balkans with the invitation for FYROM's accession to NATO following the despicable

continues to be submitted to a relation of subjection by the United States. At the same time they expressed their widest solidarity with the struggle of the Puerto Rican people to obtain their independence and sovereignty.

The dismantling of all foreign bases and military installations in the region was likewise demanded.

In its effort to preserve peace and security in the continent, the meeting called for the continuation of the celebration and deepening of the ongoing bilateral and multilateral negotiations about territorial and migratory differences existing in the region.

In the present situation of conservative restoration in Latin America and the Caribbean that imposes great risks for peace and political stability in the area, the participants reiterated the full validity of the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as Zone of Peace approved by all the Heads of State and Government of the region at the 2nd Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) in January, 2014. The principles of respect for the identity, independence and sovereignty of all nations, agreed upon at that meeting, continue to exist as essential political bastion for the defense and preservation of peace in our continent.

agreement between Greece and FYROM, which was held for this purpose. A new qualitative element is the process of Colombia's accession to NATO, which is the first of the countries in Latin America.

- The most important and most revealing of the literally brutal goals of NATO is the report of a powerful think tank, Globsec based in Bratislava. It is a text for discussion at this Summit and a plan for a "New Strategic Concept" to be decided in 2019, in the 70 years of this murderous Organization.

I would like to briefly refer to this report:

- "NATO – it is stated – in order to maintain its credibility, needs to begin a more extensive adaptation process. It has to make sure it has the ability to make a future war if it wants to prevent ... such a war." It's obvious what it means. Next, the objectives are defined: Russia, reinforcement in the South and also North Korea !!!

- It then states that a prerequisite for this is to increase military expenses so that all countries reach 2% of the GDP. At the same time, it states that "member states should buy what they need and not what they want", meaning that military spending is determined on the basis of NATO priorities rather than the needs of states for their defense. At the same time, they require a greater involvement of the

28 country members in military alliance missions (particularly outside Europe).

- It then refers to the adaptation of the NATO command structure so that it will be ready at any time to "fight tonight". In a provocative way, it notes the need to improve "military mobility" by removing bureaucratic and other obstacles in cooperation with the EU and building new resilient infrastructures (motorways, bridges, railroad networks) in order to deploy faster and safely military forces in the east and south.

- Finally, in the chapter "Strategic Allies and Opponents", it calls for a closer connection with the EU. It sets a goal of a NATO-EU summit every year. It argues that "NATO's opponents already believe they are at war with it", naming as such Russia, Al-Qaeda and ISIS !!! It clearly and as a matter of priority determines the South (Syria and the Mediterranean) as an area of action, noting that Moscow's movements in the region "challenge the primacy of the US and its Allies in the Eastern Mediterranean".

There is no doubt that, as we have proclaimed, NATO was and is the enemy of peoples and peace, the armed hand of imperialism, the armed, dangerous murderous organization protecting the interests of capital at global level. That it escalates its aggression against the peoples, that the conflicts and antagonisms lead to new wars and their possible generalization. From this point of view, the struggle of the peoples as a whole for its dissolution is an immediate priority. Toward that goal, the peoples' struggle in the NATO member countries for disengagement from it, as well as the denouncement of all the governments of the member states that participate and unanimously sign its decisions, has a special weight. There can be no doubt of it as well as of the character of the EU, which, as an imperialist union, is working closely with it in the same direction.

The creation of a truly peaceful world with people's prosperity passes through the overthrow of imperialist domination and barbarity as a whole. ■

by the Mexican Movement for Peace and Solidarity to consider the possibility to host the next Continental Meeting in 2020 in Mexico what it will be conveniently confirmed to WPC, to the WPC Continental Coordinator and to WPC Organization.

At the end of the meeting, the representatives of the peace organizations of the continent expressed their acknowledgment and thankfulness to the Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace for its effective role as host of the meeting and the excellent facilities and courtesies that, together with the authorities and the people of Moca, were granted to the participants.

*Moca, Dominican Republic
September 13, 2018*

Editorial ... (from p. 1)

a puppet of US imperialism, counting on the demonization of Sandinismo, a living patriotic movement in anti-imperialist resistance, to foment antagonism and violence in the country.

We therefore demand the end of foreign interference in Nicaragua's crisis, so that a democratic and sovereign national dialogue can move forward. We have already seen the effects that a crisis prolonged and artificially sustained by imperialist meddling and the servile

and virulent antagonism of reactionary forces and oligarchies may have in too many situations, although such effects and their victims are calculated as mere collateral damage in the general account for the promotion interests of the powers.

For the popular and national sovereignty of Nicaragua and the end of imperialist interference!

In solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and their legitimately elected government! ■

Pan-Cyprian Peace March to the British Bases June 10, 2018

Thousands of people, both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, people of all ages from all walks of life and from all corners of Cyprus, marched on Sunday 10th June 2018 in the Pan-Cyprian Peace March to the British Base of Akrotiri organized by the Cyprus Peace Council. This sea of people sent out a powerful message for Peace in Cyprus, Peace in the World. It was a truly popular mobilization with unity in action embracing broad masses strata and various movements that came together around common goals, a traditional feature and fundamental principle of the peace movement of Cyprus.

The hot sun, strong wind, as well as the sound of two British fighter jets which flew above were not enough to break the will and dampen the passion of the marchers for peace. Thousands of people marched 4.5 kilometers, demonstrating against the atrocities of the criminal wars and ongoing NATO imperialist interventions against the peoples.

They denounced the use of Cyprus through the British Bases as an aggressive launching pad against our neighboring peoples.

They demanded the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Cyprus, the withdrawal of the occupying army of Turkey which continues to occupy almost

40% of Cyprus' territory, the abolition of the British bases and the dissolution of NATO. They demanded peace in Cyprus and the world.



An event was held before the march begun with a cultural program which was addressed by the President of the Cyprus Peace Council Stelios Sofokli, the General Secretary of the World Peace Council Thanassis Pafilis, the General Secretary of the Turkish Cypriot Primary School Teachers Trade Union KTOS, the representative of the Syrian National Council of Peace Samir Masad, the Palestinian Committee for Peace and Solidarity Has-

san Mahareeq, the Peace and Solidarity Committee of Israel Aida Touma-Sliman, the British Council of Peace Steve Johnson, the former President of the Confed-

eral Group of the European United Left (GUE/NGL) Francis Wurtz, the former Yugoslav Foreign Minister Zivadin Yovanovic and finally the General Secretary of the Central Committee of AKEL Andros Kyprianou. Representatives from the fraternal movement of the Portuguese Council for Peace and Cooperation and the peace movement in Spain also took part in the event and March, while the peace movements of Turkey and the

Czech Republic sent messages of support and solidarity. It should also be noted that over 160 people of the arts and letters, of culture in general, including cultural movements and agencies, signed a declaration supporting the aims and goals of the Peace March.

Just before the beginning of the March, the renowned actor Stelios Kafkarides, read out excerpts from the lyrics of the "Peace March" written by communist Cypriot poet Theodosios Pierides: "And the great army of the people is now as big as our great land and deeper than our great sea, stronger than a thunderbolt... Peace is not awarded – it is won. Peace is a battle and a victory."

The Peace March arrived at the gates of the Akrotiri British air base, from where the British fighter jets were taking off to bomb the neighboring people of Syria. Life jackets were symbolically scattered, as well as an inflatable boat, a moving artistic intervention aimed at sending a message against the death of thousands of people who have drowned in the Mediterranean Sea in their efforts to avoid the horrors of war and imperialist interventions. A delegation, headed by the President of the Cyprus Peace Council delivered a resolution to the representative of the Akrotiri British Base. ■

Regional European Meeting of WPC Karl Marx Library, London — May 26–27, 2018

The regional meeting of the WPC in Europe took place successfully in London, on 26 and 27 May, 2018. The meeting was hosted by the British Peace Assembly (BPA) more than 30 years after the last such occasion. The Meeting took place a significant venue, the Marx Memorial Library, 200 years from the birth of Karl Marx, whose works continue to inspire millions of peoples in the world.

The Meeting was chaired by the regional Coordinator CPPC Portugal (Felipe Ferreira) and the British Peace Assembly (Liz Payne), while it was attended also by the Executive Secretary WPC Iraklis Tsavdaridis.

The Peace Movements from Britain, Portugal, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Czech Republic, Serbia, Germany, Ireland and Switzerland and guests from the Peace Movements of the USA and Iran, discussed



the relevant situation with the growing aggressiveness of imperialism around the globe, exchanged views and experiences about the struggle in each country and

the coordination of it. The WPC regional meeting reiterated its commitment to struggle against NATO for its dissolution and the struggle in each member state for

the disengagement from it, against the imperialist plans and actions of the EU through PESCO, Battle Groups and EU Army and expresses the serious concerns about the escalation of the imperialist threats and interventions in the Middle East and the dangers for a generalized war of global dimensions. The Meeting approved resolutions about the situation around Iran and Cyprus and a regional appeal towards the NATO summit in Brussels.

The WPC in Europe discussed based on the global plan of action of the WPC, the anti-NATO activities to be held on 6 and 7 July in Brussels in cooperation with INTAL Belgium and in the framework of the WPC campaign "YES to Peace-NO to NATO", and expressed support to the holding of the International Conference against US and NATO Foreign Military Bases to be held in Dublin/Ireland on November 16-18, 2018. ■



The WPC expresses its satisfaction for the release of Ahed Tamimi, the 17 years young Palestinian girl from Israeli jails after seven months. We salute Ahed Tamimi and her family for their brave resistance against the Israeli army in the Palestinian occupied territories which violate and harass Palestinian families on a daily basis.

38th Peace Marathon March Held by the Greek Committee for International Detente and Peace (EEDYE)



On the National Day of anti-imperialist Action all over Greece in Athens, a Peace March of 42.3 km distance was carried out with the participation of thousands of demonstrators from ancient Marathon to the Greek Ministry of Defense. Similar peace marches were held on the same day in the cities of Thessaloniki, Larissa, Alexandroupolis, Chania (Crete), Patras, Ioannina, Samos island with many thousands participants upon the call of EEDYE.

The main slogans of the action day were: • NATO out of the Aegean Sea • No the change of borders and the treaties which define them • Close down of all US/NATO military facilities and Bases • Return of all military and police missions of Greece from abroad • Disengagement from NATO and the EU. • Solidarity with the peoples under imperialist aggressions.

Basic Law: Israel the Nation State Law of the Jewish People A New Colonial Apartheid Law

MK Aida Touma-Sliman
President of the Peace and Solidarity
Committee in Israel

“Israel the Nation State Law of the Jewish People,” legislated on the 19th of July in the Israeli Knesset, marks a turning point in the history of the Middle East Region and the official declaration of establishment of the Colonialist Apartheid Regime in Israel.

This basic constitutional law cannot be, and is not, just an internal Israeli issue. It is in full contradiction with International Law and all Resolutions and Declarations, and is aimed at eliminating any future possibility of ending the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Syrian lands occupied in 1967, or the establishment of an Independent Palestinian State.

Clearly this law is a Colonial Law as it is applied to territories classified as under occupation by the International Community.

The Nation State Law declares occupied Jerusalem the eternal capital of Israel, and the Golan Territory as part of Israel. By using the terminology of “Land of Israel” (meaning from the sea to the river) it reveals the intention to continue the occupation and further annexation of the territories that are under occupation.

Reading this law in the context of the current political developments on the ground, makes it very clear that it meant to change the reality in a drastic way. Moving the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and the American recognition of Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel, and the attack on UNERWA and re-defining the Palestinian refugee issues, both aim to put an end to the open discussion on two

of the final remaining issues postponed in the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations.

The Israeli occupation’s decision to demolish and remove of Khan AlAhmar village will connect the Israeli Settlements in the center of the West Bank to Jerusalem, will isolate Jerusalem from the rest of the Paestinian occupied territories, will cut the West Bank into two unconnected parts, and liquidates the possibility of any future Palestinian State.

The Law in its articles violate the rights of the Arabs living under the Is-



raeli constitutional regime: Palestinians citizens of Israel; the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem and the Syrians residents in the Golan. Thus creating a three-level classification of citizenships in Israel: first, the higher and privileged level for the Jews in Israel and all over the world; second, for the Palestinians citizens of Israel; and third, for the Jerusalemites and Syrians in the Golan.

Because this is a Basic Law, its pro-

visions will have implications on the interpretation of the existing laws and will narrow the scope of challenging the discriminatory policies:

— The Law falls under the absolute prohibitions of International Law and therefore it is an illegitimate colonial law with characteristics of apartheid.

— The International Law recognizes the right of self-determination in a Nation State under two conditions:

- a) Equal treatment for all citizens;
- b) Collective and individual rights for

is a national goal.

— The Law creates a situation of oppression and control. This Constitutional process without the consent of the Arabs denies their rights as indigenous and national minority group. The Arabs supposed to promote the oppression and discrimination against them — something that is not accepted in any measure.

This Nation State Law, by its implications for the Palestinian cause of liberation from occupation and implementation of the right of self-determination, on one hand, and its violation of the International standards and Laws, on the other, is a matter that should be of high concern for the whole international Community, for the peace fighters, and for the peoples of the Middle East Region.

We call upon the Peace Movement to stand up and lead a big campaign against this Law and the general colonial Israeli policy supported by the American Imperialist Administration of Donald Trump. The Palestinian people need all the solidarity and support they can receive in this crucial historical turn. Every effort should be made to avoid a new round of bloodshed and oppression in the whole region.

The demand to abolish this Colonial Law is raised very strongly inside Israel. On August 11th, more than 60,000 Jews and Arabs marched together in Tel Aviv against this Law. A big coalition of popular movements and civil society organizations came together organizing to continue the struggle against the Nation State Law, understanding that it is a struggle for equality and democracy, and most of all, a struggle against occupation. ■

Katmandu Regional Meeting ... (from p. 3)

ist military build-up as is witnessed by the further promotion of the plan to create an Asia’s NATO like alliance and the increasing stationing of US army, the stationing of nuclear weapons in South Korea, the build-up of these forces in South East Asia, the South Pacific, the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Middle East as well as also in South China Sea. As a result of this, a number of regional conflicts are persistently exacerbating the situation in the region as in the cases of the Korean peninsula, Afghanistan, Iran, the Indian Sub-continent, the Gulf and the Middle East.

The meeting expressed deep concern of geometrical increase in religious fundamentalism, extremism and all kinds of terrorism is taking place in this region. Though the economic developments are taking place in significant level there exist also immense poverty, illiteracy, deceases, malnutrition and underdevelopment resulting in sharpening of social and economic contradictions in this most populated area of the world.

The meeting emphasized that these developments make it incumbent on WPC member’s organisations to realize the multi dimensional and comprehensive and interconnected nature of these challenges which threatens not only world peace but the very survival of the planet. The peace movements in our region cannot proceed in any meaningful way without assimilating the seriousness of these challenges and without evolving ap-

propriate responses to them. After detail discussions the meeting identified areas where Peace movements in this region have to strengthen their activities.

Major activities of WPC member organizations should highlight the question of Peace and Stability. The important component of our activities should cover the issues of total nuclear disarmament, demanding closing of all US bases, stopping all foreign military exercises, supporting just peace proposals of different countries of this region, and mobilizing the people of this region in favor of such activities.

Particular emphasize should be given to the people of Korea for their resolve to denuclearization of Korean Peninsula and their efforts for the peaceful reunification of Korea. In this light the WPC regional meeting welcomed the Inter-Korean talks and the efforts to end the threats and sanctions against the DPR of Korea.

The threats of terrorism and religious extremism are one of the growing phenomena in this region. The fate of Rohingya people in Myanmar is one of the manifestations of such developments. This dangerous development is influenced by sectarian and fundamentalist ideologies which weakening and undermining the unity of the people thereby derailing the resolve and the united struggles of the people against imperialism.

The WPC member’s organizations have to organize suitable activities so that the people of this region can effectively fight back these forces.

minorities.

— This Basic Law creates an official legal basis for the Israeli Apartheid regime, and gives superiority to the Jews on ethnic grounds, intentionally ignoring the fact that twenty percent of Israeli citizens are Palestinians.

— It establishes occupation as a constitutional value. For example, the Article Seven of the Law states that developing and creating Jewish settlements

The questions of Solidarity with the people of all continents are the central activities of WPC member’s organizations. The Asia-Pacific region was always in the forefront of Solidarity activities. The WPC member’s organizations from this region have to redouble their solidarity with the people of Palestine, Korea, Cuba, Venezuela, Vietnam and other countries of the world.

Future Activities for the Year 2018

The Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the WPC members and friendly organizations decided to organize following activities;

1. To observe 6th and 9th August as Hiroshima and Nagasaki day and to popularize the demands for total nuclear disarmament and Asia free of all foreign military bases
2. To observe international day of solidarity with the people of Palestine on 29th November in appropriate manner.
3. To participate the forthcoming executive meeting of WPC in Syria in month of October 2018, followed by the International Solidarity Mission to Syria .
4. To participate also in the International Conference against US/NATO foreign military to be held Dublin from 16-18 November.
5. The meeting also decided that all member organizations of WPC has to clear their due membership fees as soon as possible.
6. To organise a trilateral meeting

among the Peace movements from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh in Dhaka.

7. The next regional meeting hopefully will be held in Vientiane, capital of Laos in 2019

The meeting extended sincere thanks to the people of Nepal, the Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council and its members for hosting the meeting and providing a warm hospitality.

We hope all our member organizations will take appropriate steps to realize the above activities adopted at the regional consultative meeting.

Resolution on Rohingya People in Myanmar

The Asia-Pacific regional meeting of the World Peace Council condemns the ongoing atrocities with the Rohingya people of Myanmar, who are facing huge humanitarian crisis and who are being chased and running away for their lives with serious complaints for policies of ethnic cleansing. As a result of such killing and atrocities, thousands and thousands of Rohingya people has taken shelter in Bangladesh thus created huge economic burden on Bangladesh government as well as created social tension inside the country. The meeting demands that Myanmar government should create appropriate social and economic conditions so that Rohingya people who were forced to leave Rakhin province can go back there with full citizenship rights. ■